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# Conference Report Highlights

June 30, 2000

## Highlights of the Conference Report to Accompany H.R. 4425, The FY 2001 Military Construction Appropriations Bill

### Noteworthy

- Last night the House adopted the conference report to accompany H.R. 4425, by a vote of 306-110. The Senate is expected to take it up today.
- On May 16, 2000, the House passed H.R. 4425 by a vote of 386-22, and the Senate passed the bill on May 18, 2000, by a vote of 96-4.
- H.R. 4425 provides a total of \$8.83 billion for FY 2001 military construction programs, which is a \$493 million increase over FY 2000 levels and a \$800 million increase over the President's requested level.
- The conference report also includes a total of \$11.17 billion in FY 2000 supplemental appropriations, which includes the following items: counternarcotics; defense (including Kosovo funding, as well as other defense-related programs); military construction disaster assistance; DOE nuclear energy programs; non-defense activities related to Kosovo (police training in Montenegro and Croatia) and in Mozambique; Communication Assistance for Law Enforcement Act (CALEA); Hurricane Floyd and other natural disasters; Los Alamos fire relief; transportation; and Low Income Home Energy Assistance (LIHEAP).
- The President has indicated that he will sign the bill.

## **Highlights of the FY 2001 Military Construction Appropriations**

The military construction appropriation bill provides funding for the planning, design, construction, alteration, and improvement of military facilities worldwide, both for the active and reserve forces. It finances construction, alteration, improvement, and operation and maintenance of military family housing, including payments against past housing mortgage indebtedness. This bill also serves as the source for the U.S. share of the NATO Security Investment Program and provides funding to implement base closure and realignments authorized by law.

- H.R. 4425 provides a total of \$8.834 billion for FY 2001 military construction.
- A total of \$4.39 is provided for **military construction** (which makes up 49 percent of the total), and includes the following:
  - \$758 million for barracks
  - \$43 million for child development centers
  - \$141 million for hospital and medical facilities
  - \$26 million for environmental compliance
  - \$175 million for the energy Chemical Demilitarization program
  - \$172 million for NATO Security Investment Program
  - \$693 million for Guard and Reserve components
- For **family housing**, which makes up 40 percent of the total bill, \$3.61 billion is provided, of which:
  - \$874 million is for new family housing units and for improvements to existing units
  - \$2.7 billion is for operation and maintenance of existing units
- A total of \$1.02 billion, or 11 percent of the bill, is provided for **base realignment and closure**, of which:
  - \$13 million is for military construction and family housing
  - \$865 million is for environmental cleanup
  - \$146 million is for operations and maintenance, permanent change of station, other costs, and offsetting reductions

## **Background of the FY 2000 Supplemental**

On March 30, 2000, the House passed a \$13.2 billion FY 2000 supplemental appropriation bill, H.R. 3908, by a vote of 263-146, after initially failing on a motion to recommit with instructions by a vote of 194-220. The House bill was about \$7.5 billion higher than the President's \$5.7 billion request. The House-passed measure added \$6.4 billion for Department of Defense petroleum cost increases, health programs, and other DOD "Quality of

Life" activities, and increased the President's request for domestic natural disaster relief by over \$1 billion. The measure recommended the requested level of \$600 million for low income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) but rejected the \$210 million Administration request for poor country debt relief.

Instead of taking up the House bill, Senate leaders decided to attach portions of it to three relevant FY 2001 regular appropriations bills (Military Construction, Foreign Operations, and Agriculture). During the House-Senate conference on H.R. 4425, other non-military FY 2000 supplemental appropriations items were added to the conference report. A summary of the military construction appropriations conference report and the FY 2000 supplemental appropriations items contained in that report, and their funding levels, is provided below.

### **Highlights of the FY 2000 Supplemental Appropriations Bill**

- A total of \$11.17 billion is provided for **FY 2000 supplemental appropriations**.
- For **counternarcotics**, a total of \$1.32 billion is provided (\$1.02 billion for Plan Colombia; \$185 for defense-related counternarcotics efforts; and \$117 million for military construction).
- A total of \$6.46 billion is provided for **defense-related programs** (excluding counternarcotics). In this category, Kosovo is funded at \$2.05 billion (the Administration's request); \$1.56 billion is for fuel, and \$1.31 billion is for health programs.
- For **military construction**, to provide disaster assistance specifically for storm damage repair, \$20 million is provided.
- A total of \$192.5 million is provided for **Department of Energy nuclear energy programs**.
- **Non-defense funding** for activities to support Kosovo (i.e., police training in Montenegro and Croatia), and Mozambique is appropriated at \$75 million.
- The Communication Assistance for Law Enforcement Act (CALEA) [47 U.S.C. 1001 et.seq] is funded at \$181 million.
- A total of \$361 million is provided for **Hurricane Floyd and other natural disasters**.
- For claims, settlements, and damages relating to the fires around **Los Alamos**, New Mexico, the conference report provides \$661 million.

- **Wildland firefighting** is appropriated at \$350 million.
- For **transportation**, a total of \$750 million is provided, of which \$700 million is for the Coast Guard (including \$468 million for 6 C-130s); the conference report includes a \$45 million rescission and offset.
- An additional \$600 million is provided for **Low-Income Home Energy Assistance (LIHEAP)**.
- The Social Security Administration is appropriated \$35 million for the **retirement earnings test**.
- A total of \$4.5 million is provided for the **DC police**.
- Includes language to block the Environmental Protection Agency from implementing rules aimed at cleaning up the nation's waterways.

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